The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

May 2020 Volume 50 Number 5

May Meeting Will Be On-The Air

Bob Check, W8GC

Most of you know Bob, W8GC, as the CARS treasurer. He has held the office for many years, taking care of the club's finances with such exactness the audit committee's annual examination of the records rarely show discrepancies, and only minor ones at that. Many members don't realize his duties also include filing state and federal financial forms, processing membership applications and updating the roster, sending out late dues notices, collecting ARRL dues and forwarding them to the League for compensation, keeping the property inventory current and notifying the insurance company of changes, processing orders and distributing CARS clothing, recording all donations of cash and equipment, and many other necessary functions. Bob has done a fantastic job as treasurer year after year.

But he goes above the call of duty. When the club receives used equipment from donations or purchases, Bob handles the gear from start to finish. He begins by conversing with the source to determine the worthiness of the proposed acquisition. He then picks the equipment up. Next, it goes on his bench for testing, cleaning, and repair. He not only applies his expertise to any repairs, but often replaces defective parts from his personal inventory - gratis. He then advertises the equipment for sale. Usually, club members are given first crack at buying the gear at tempting prices. I am now staring at several pieces in my shack I bought this way. If there are no local takers, Bob will go to the Internet. He then takes care of the transaction, packing, and shipping. His efforts have put quite a few dollars into the CARS treasury. Bob never pats himself on the back or boasts about this meaningful financial contribution to the club.

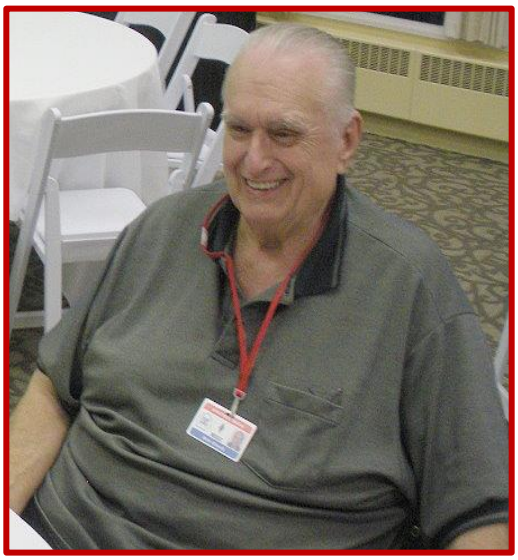
[Continued]

Next CARS Meeting

Tuesday, May 12 - 7:30 PM
ON-THE AIR MEETING
146.820
CARS REPEATER
Program:
Anthony Luscre, K8ZT
"Having Fun with Morse Code"

Many know Bob as the webmaster for the CARS website. He has done this singlehandedly for decades. He keeps the membership roster current, including all address, phone number, email, license class, and call sign changes. He is always happy to make changes or additions at member's requests - quickly and skillfully. Bob has a knack for making the website user friendly by adding links to maps and other pertinent information.

When Bob preceded me as president, he introduced numerous programs to the club that made CARS what it is today. He initiated, supervised, and instructed the licensing classes for years. Under his leadership, the program continually improved. CARS can take great pride in the number of new hams our classes have brought into the Amateur Radio Service; as well as those who upgraded their license classifications through our classes.



Bob, W8GC, yucking it up with friends at a recent CARS meeting.

Bob was instrumental in getting the Copley School radio club up and running. He made countless trips to Copley to assist Dr. Dave Dressler, KD8V (SK), to get the station operational. Bob donated equipment and climbed on the school roof installing coax and antennas. He held instructional sessions for the students complete with hands on training, visual aids he prepared, and study material he created. Bob also brought the CARS VE team down to the school to give licensing exams, enabling the students to earn their tickets.

Bob initiated the CARS scholarship program. He created fund raising programs to finance the scholarships and assembled a team to evaluate the applications and select the winning recipients. The program has been a roaring success. Over the years our scholarships have helped many, many members and members' relatives obtain educational goals and success in life. The scholarship program is definitely another feather in the CARS cap.

The 2007 Great Lakes Division Convention may have been one of Bob's crowing achievements. He successfully campaigned for the convention to be in Cleveland and have CARS host the event. He procured meeting halls and hospitality suites at one of the nicest hotels in the Independence business district. He brought in an all-star group of famous hams from all over the country including representatives from the ARRL and *QST.* We all pitched in with the grunt work, but it was all Bob's show; and what a show it was. It could easily be ranked the best Great Lakes Convention of all time. Please take a minute to see the comments by Jim Weaver, K8KE, ARRL Great Lakes Division Director, in the August, 2007 *WO*; Tina Check, W8HBI (SK); and Joe Phillips, K8QOE, ARRL Ohio Section Manager - both in the October, 2007 *WO*. Their words say it all about the success of the convention.

Bob began his amateur radio career as a high schooler getting his interest from his mother who was a ham. Right off the bat he was considered a "Big Gun" searching for DX and filling his log with an amazing amount of contacts. His radio accomplishments over the years are abundant and prodigious. Today, W8GC sits very near the top of the DXCC Honor Roll.

Bob's life included a lot more than amateur radio. Besides raising a family and being a successful business man, he has been active and involved in various Community Service organizations.

[Continued]

Bob was a winning stock car owner, builder and driver. He was also a successful drag racer. Bob flew and sailed as an airplane and boat owner.

Bob could certainly be called “A man for all seasons.” A man of such varied talents, he made a living with an oscilloscope and a pool cue at different periods in his exciting life. I learned a complimentary expression in Texas that describes Bob well: “Hell for stout.” No doubt, Bob Check could always hold the ground he was standing on.

When I was in college, a professor asked how many students in the class attended a guest speaker’s presentation the day before. He was dismayed that no hands went up. He said the speaker was a great man, a person who you surely sense greatness in their presence, and it is a lost opportunity to miss the experience. There is no question Bob Check, W8GC, is a great man. A great man I am honored to call a friend.

73, Toby, WT8O

From The Prez

On-The-Air Meeting
Part II

We held our first ever On-The-Air meeting in April, and for the most part, it went pretty well. We had 24 participants. We were able to initiate a resolution to increase the use of our EchoLink system. One member brought sad news about another being hospitalized with a serious heart problem. We can now report he is recovering at home after successful heart surgery. We had reports from officers and committees including the annual treasury audit, VE session status, public service, and the tech committee. It may have been our first On-The-Air meeting, but it won’t be our last.

We will have our May meeting On-The-Air. For one thing, Busch is keeping the Community Rooms closed as long as the schools are closed. Moreover, as the CARS president, I could not sanction a get together where the possibility lurks of one or more of our members catching this dreaded virus. I would much rather have one hundred people upset with me, than one person becoming ill as a result of a decision I made. We are fortunate that our hobby yields us the opportunity to meet and communicate via the airwaves, unlike so many other enthusiast clubs that just have to wait things out. So On-The-Air it will be again in May, on the 12th at 7:30.

We will also have a program after the meeting featuring Anthony Luscre, K8ZT, the ARRL Ohio Section Manager for Education Outreach entitled “Having Fun with Morse Code.”

Last month I requested any thoughts or ideas we could incorporate into the meeting, but unfortunately, received none. The same invite holds for the upcoming meeting; please contact me if you have something you wish to offer. It was good to hear so many positive comments about the meeting the following evening on the Wednesday club net. Since this is a new concept for us, any input would be welcomed and appreciated.

[Continued]

May Net Sked

MAY	6	WT8O
MAY	13	N8OWS
MAY	20	KD8OUE
MAY	27	AC8NW

Nets are run every Wednesday at 9:00 PM on 146.820 (PL 110.9)

VE Session Cancelled

The VE session scheduled for May 10th has been cancelled. The city of Independence has closed municipal buildings to the public, so we will not have our normal facility for testing. At this point we have no make-up date. CARS will announce the next session on the website, in the *WO*, and on the weekly net.

73, Toby, WT8O

Peep from the Veep
Mark, WJ8WM

This is the time we are excited to attend Hamvention in a few weeks. Making our lists, anxious to see the new products, and being with our friends, some we only see this one time a year. I'm not going to let the disappointment of the cancellation of Hamvention to cloud my enthusiasm for radio this year.

In the article I wrote last May I spoke of purchasing a new Yaesu handheld, still which I barely know how to turn on. I had also purchased a new 2M / 440 antenna and a new discone scanner antenna. Both are in their boxes sitting safely somewhere in the garage. Each time I step out my back door I see the North end my off-center fed dipole laying on the ground. It was a victim of winter winds causing the supporting rope to wear and break.

Above - The 2 Meter/440 antenna

Saturday was forecasted to be a beautiful day and I decided it was going to be ANTENNA DAY at the WJ8WM QTH. I wrestled the ladder off my truck and started with the dipole. I replaced the rope and this time I threaded it through a piece of old garden hose around the utility pole before tying it off. Hopefully, this will stop the abrasion.

A friend who I have been helping around his house stopped over to see what I was up to. The fact that he isn't a ham had no effect on me pressing him into service on my project! We tackled the 2M antenna next. The Tram 1180 was quick and easy to assemble and we were soon swapping it out for the Comet. However, the Comet has PL259 connector and the Tram has a SO239 connector. I could have used an adaptor but in my mind, I thought it better to replace the cable end, so we took the cable down to an easier working height and made the swap.

Below – The CB antenna

[Continued]

The scanner discone antenna

We moved the ladder over to another mast on the house for the scanner antenna. This mast is home to a scanner, HDTV, Sirrius Radio, and weather antennas and some cameras. When I have to service them, I have to take the mast down because there isn't a safe place to rest the ladder. After getting to a place where we could access the scanner antenna, we had to fabricate a new mounting bracket. The old antenna was clamped with a U-bolt. The Tram 1411 mounts on top of a 1-3/8 mast. We just clamped a short piece of pipe to the mast and were back in business.

We finished up around 18:00. An hour later I had everything put away and the ladder secured on the truck and I am back on the air. But I still wish I could have one of those Hamvention pork chop sandwiches for dinner!

Minutes of the
CUYAHOGA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
April 14, 2020

Because of the Corona virus the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society held its April 2020 meeting on the club repeater (146.220 – 146.820 MHz) at 7:30 P. M.

CALLED TO ORDER---The meeting was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:30 P. M.

PLEDGE OF ALEGENCE---Those present pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

MARCH MINUTES---The minutes of the March meeting were approved as published in the *Wobbly Oscillator.*

TREASURER'S REPORT---Since Treasurer Bob Check, W8GC, was unable to attend the meeting, Vice President Mark, WJ8WM, gave the Treasurer's report. He reported that there are no problems with the club's Finances. He also reported that the recent audit turned up no financial problems.

WOBBLY OSCILLATOR ---Toby, WT8O, thanked all those who contributed to the April *Wobbly Oscillator.*

QSO ON THE AIR---Because of the cancelation of the Dayton Hamvention there will be a QSO on the air at the time of the planed Hamvention.

PUBLIC EVENTS---Arp, K8ARP, reported that there are no public events scheduled at this time.

VE SESSION---The recent VE session for the licensing classes was canceled. The next exam is scheduled for May 10th; however, it may be canceled.

[Continued]

FUTURE PROGRAMS---Bill, KD8QBB, reported that there are programs scheduled for the next three meetings.

ECHOLINK---Scott, AC8NW, reported that EchoLink and Allstar are in service on our repeater at the Brecksville site. He urged members to use EchoLink when they can. It was reported that information on using EchoLink and Allstar can be found in the *Wobbly Oscillator*. Eddie, KD8FTS, requested that the codes required to establish outbound EchoLink and Allstar connections be made available to the members as soon as possible. He commented that unusual situation unfolding around the world due to the Corona virus might create high demand for EchoLink and Allstar in the next few weeks. The technical committee said that they will give the information to Bob, W8GC, and ask that it be published as soon as possible.

FORMER MAYOR OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO---George Pindroh, K8KR, reported that Rick Dell'Aquila, KD8SCT, is seriously ill and in the hospital. Mayor Rick, KD8SCT, was very helpful to our club on several recent Field Days when we held Field Day at Calvin Park in Seven Hills, Ohio. George had no further information on Mayor Rick, KD8SCT's condition. [*Rick is now at home recovering from successful heart surgery*. *Ed*]

ADJOURNED---The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P. M.

Ed Stevens, WB8ROK, CARS Secretary

May Birthdays

Mike Mraz, KA8MZS	**5/12/40**
Bill Kemmett, KD8QBB	**5/13/47**
John Papay, K8YSE	**5/15**
Jerry Smith, NW9H	**5/19/41**
Ron Borkey, K8VJG	**5/20/32**
Roy Baldner, KE8KOL	**5/27/54**
Brian Schmiedlin, KE8KYH	**5/30/90**

CARS Repeaters

146.820 (-) PL Tone 110.9

Main Site – Brecksville

Receive Only Site – Brunswick

Receive Only Site – Shaker Hts.

Allstar Node 47067

EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)

****

443.825 (+) PL Tone 131.8

Digital Yaesu Fusion

Linked to 146.82 Repeater

Brecksville

****

444.75 (+) Receive PL Tone 131.8

449.75 Transmit

Stand-alone Not Linked

Shaker Hts.

CARS Scholarships

To all CARS members, it's time to apply for your 2020 CARS scholarship award. We will be awarding up to two (2) $750.00 scholarships this year, these will be awarded to ***any CARS member, son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter*** who is graduating or has graduated high school, received a G.E.D. or successfully passed home schooled high school certification and is going on the a higher Education. A CARS check will be issued to the 2 winning recipients upon submission of a successful enrollment in any certified continuing vocational education program, college program or other appropriate accredited school.

We must receive **a completed Application on or before May 31, 2020**. Just go to the CARS home page and click on Member info in the left column, select *Scholarship application*. **Remember the user name is "member" and password is "W8HBI"**, Print the application, complete and return it to me, my address is 7395 Brecksville Rd, Independence, OH 44131 ASAP. The committee will review and select the recipients from all received applications.

Again we will be awarding two $750.00 Scholarships to deserving students.

If you have any questions or need help please call or email me:

Bob Check, W8GC
7395 Brecksville Rd.
Independence, OH 44131
216-524-1750
Bob@2cls.com

W8MET Scores Well in Contest

Metro, W8MET, finished the 2019 New England QSO Party with the high score in Ohio in the Low Power category. His score placed him 9th place overall in the Low Power category. He was awarded a certificate for his accomplishment.

Honorary Members

Any person who by nature of outstanding or meritorious contribution to the furtherance of amateur radio and the ideals of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

Robert Check, W8GC
Elected 2/10/15

Thomas Wayne, WB8N
Elected 1/10/17

Dwaine Modock, K8ME, SK
Elected 5/9/17

Toby Kolman, WT8O
Elected 10/10/17

Jerry Smith, NW9H
Elected 5/8/18

Ron Borkey, K8VJG
Elected 5/14/19

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society
2019 Audit Committee Report
Mark, WJ8WM

This year's Audit report was prepared during the Covid pandemic. It was decided for the safety of the committee members we would not meet in person. Treasurer Bob Check, W8GC, supplied President Toby Kolman, WT8O, Committee member Mike Kemmett, KD8OUE, and myself with financial statements via email.

Upon review, the members provided their comments and on April 2, 2020 we concluded all was in order with the report of the club finances. Our numbers were down a little from last year. I was pleased to see so many members renewed their ARRL dues through the club

The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society is financially strong. However, good stewardship is not a replacement for income and fundraising. As previously stressed, we need to find income streams to fund activities and programs desired by the members. This is not is not just a function of the executive board. All suggestions are welcome.

A cornerstone of C.A.R.S. is education. The scholarship fund is strong and I would encourage members to submit an application to utilize this opportunity this year. Remember, grandchildren are eligible and the amount has been increased to $750.00 per scholarship.

We all owe Bob a Thank-you for his dedication and care of the C.A.R.S. finances!

This report submitted by Mark Moro, WJ8WM, Chairman Audit Committee

7-30 Nets
Submitted by Bob, KC8MRC

These are a series of nets that started out as a reason to gather on the area repeaters here in **Essex County** during the period of social distancing due to the COVID-19 virus. It kept growing and we decided to run a simplex net on the National Calling Channel to encourage people to say hello and get their minds off of the issue that is bringing us all a bit closer yet remaining distant so to speak.

We are running nets every evening at this point with the nets from Sunday thru Friday being the same nets on those evenings. Saturday will be the day that we try something different.

Below is the list of repeater and nets that we have running with more being added soon.

The repeaters noted as in **Leamington** and **Kingsville** are along the lake more or less which those marked as Windsor are in downtown Windsor across the river from Detroit.

These are individual nets run by various clubs and the repeaters are a mix of club repeaters and privately owned machines.
The nets are grouped together under the name, **"The Seven Thirty"**.

The net that you checked into was **"The Seven Thirty 2m Simplex Net"**. The NCS was Mike **VE3UCY**, the Emergency Manager and Deputy Fire Chief of the Town of Leamington and amongst the many check ins are other municipal and county Emergency Managers, a Fire Chief and a plethora of municipal, county and federal government officials and a doctor or two, everybody being quite busy these days!!!

The Seven Thirty family of nets:
(most repeaters require a 118.8 hz PL tone for access)!

- **Sunday**.....**BCRC Sunday Night 6m Net**
  - VE3SMR 53.030 xmitter near Essex 90' AGL
    - 52.030 input, no PL in Windsor 225' AGL
    - 52.050 input, 118.8 hz PL in Leamington 200' AGL
- **Monday**.....**Essex County 220 MHz Society Monday Night Net**
  - VE3OOO 224.660, no PL 225' AGL
- **Tuesday**.....**Sun Parlour ARC Tuesday Night Net**
  - VE3TOM 146.970, 118.8 hz PL in downtown Leamington 150' AGL
  - VE3WIN 147.000 118.8 hz PL in downtown Windsor 225' AGL
  - VE3WIN 444.600 118.8 hz PL in downtown Windsor 225' AGL
- **Wednesday**.... **Sun Parlour Retirees ARC Wednesday Night Net**
  - VE3III 147.060 118.8 hz PL in downtown Windsor 200' AGL
- **Thursday**.....**Triple Zed FM Net** (analog mode on this FM / Fusion repeater)
  - VE3ZZZ, 147.100 118.8 hz PL high atop Mt. Ruthven 200' AGL
- **Friday**.....**SODA Friday Night DMR Local Net** (local talk group)
  - VE3UUU 444.4000 CKLW-FM tower near Amherstburg 400' AGL
  - VE3WIN 442.0625 downtown Windsor 275' AGL
  - VE3TOM 443.2625 downtown Leamington 150' AGL
  - VA3XLT 443.9875 downtown Chatham (currently off line) 150' AGL
  - VA3YFU tba Wallaceburg (under construction)
- **Saturday.....The Seven Thirty on 2m Simplex Net**
  - **April 4th on 146.520 mhz** VE3UCY NCS 99' AGL

Note that the **VE3WIN**, **VE3SMR**, and **VE3OOO** repeaters listed above are located in Windsor, Ontario, the **VE3UUU** repeater is located south west of Windsor near Amherstburg, Ontario and the **VE3ZZZ** and **VE3TOM** repeaters are located in or near Leamington, Ontario along Lake Erie. The Thursday night net in particular takes place on a FM repeater that regularly gets activity from W8-land in Ohio and Michigan.

Any questions? Contact Bill, **VE3ES, at ve3es@arrl.net**

The *Wobbly Oscillator* is a publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, Ohio, 44131-0264. Articles from this publication may be reprinted in any ham radio publication, provided that credit is given to this publication and the author, if known. All submissions should be emailed to: wt8o@att.net by the end of the month for publication in the next month's issue.

Radiosport

Contests

May 9, 1200 - May 10, 1159 **CQ-M International DX Contest** 1.8 - 28 CW Ph cqm.srr.ru/en-rules
Exchange: RS(T), serial

Special Events Stations***

May 2 - May 3, 1400-2100 **WW8MRN** Marion, OH **Marion County Ohio Bicentennial-Celebrating 200 Years** 147.300 14.300 14.030 7.250 7.030 3.950 3.530; digital 7.040 3.590 1.070 Certificate and QSL Dustin Holbrook, P.O. Box 252, Marion, OH 43301

May 3 - May 9, 0400-0400 **W9IMS** Indianapolis, IN **The INDYCAR Grand Prix** 18.140 14.245 7.245 3.840 Certificate and QSL www.w9ims.org

May 18 – May 24, 0400 – 0400 **W9IMS** Indianapolis, IN **The Indianapolis 500** 18.140 14.245 7.245 3.840 Certificate and QSL www.w9ims.org

QSO Parties

May 2, 1300 - May 3, 0700 **7th Call Area QSO Party** 1.8 - 28 CW Ph 7qp.org
Exchange: RS(T), 5-letter state/county code or SPC (State, Province, DX Entity)

May 2, 1500 - May 3, 0300 **Indiana QSO Party** 1.8 - 28 CW Ph www.hdxcc.org/ongp
Exchange: RS(T), IN county or SPC

May 2, 1700 - May 3, 2359 **Delaware QSO Party** 1.8 - VHF CW Ph www.fsarc.org/qsoparty
Exchange: RS(T), DE County or SPC

May 2, 200 0- May 3, 2359 **New England QSO Party** 3.5 - 28 CW PH Dig www.neqp.org
Exchange: RS(T), county+state or SPC

May 9, 1400 - May 10, 0200 **Arkansas QSO Party** 3.5-28, 144 CW Ph www.arkqp.com
Exchange: RS(T), county or SPC

Sampling from May, 2020 *QST* - Pg. 69, 80 and 81. See *QST* for many more events.

All times in GMT ZULU time

*** Due to the COVID-19 Virus, many events are being canceled or rescheduled. Check the sponsor's website for information and updates.

CARS 2020 Officers & Committees

Audit
WJ8WM ** WT8O, KD8OUE

Audio/Video
AC8NW **

ARRL Liaison
WJ8WM **

Awards
W8GC ** WT8O

Christmas party & Summer Picnic
?? **, WJ8WM, K8ARP

Club Photographer
N8OWS **

Field Day
?? **, WT8O, WJ8WM, K8RGI, K8ARP, KD8SCV, AC8NW, AC8TN, K8RJH, N8BBB food

50/50
KD8SCV

Hamvention Bus
KD8FTS **

License classes
KD8ACO **, WT8O, K8SHB

Media Representative
KD8SCV

Membership
WT8O ** W8GC

NET
WT8O **

Newsletter
WT8O ** 440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

Programs at Meetings
KD8QBB ** KD8BAL

Property Custodian's
KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

Public Services
K8ARP ** KD8FTS

QSL Manager - W8HBI, W8BM
WB8N **

Refreshments at Meetings & Picnic
K8RJH ** pop, ?? ** coffee,
NW8X ** Donuts

Scholarship
W8GC ** WJ8WM, KD8SCV, WB8ROK, WB8N

Sunshine (welfare)
Andy, KD8SCV ** 440-886-0723

Technical
AC8NW ** N8OVW, WJ8WM, KD8ACO, K8RJH, K8MD, KB8DTC

VE Exams
Metro, W8MET ** 216-520-1320

Web Master/e-mail
W8GC **
** chairman or co-chairman

2020 Officers

PRESIDENT
Toby Kolman WT8O 440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

VICE-PRESIDENT
Mark Moro, WJ8WM 216-661-0342

SECRETARY
Ed Stevens, WB8ROK 216-267-5473
Alternate Secretary:

TREASURER:
Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750
Alternate Treasurer: Bob Robbins, K8RGI

Board Members & License Trustees

Board Chairman
Andy Evridge KD8SCV 440-886-0723
Alternate Chairman: Mike Kemmett, KD8OUE

even year executive board 2 year term
K8SHB, KB8DTC, KD8OUE

odd year executive board 2 year term
KD8SCV, K8ARP, K8RJH

License trustee
K8ZFR
WT8O

License trustee
W8HBI, W8BM,
W8GC

February 23, 2020